GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:813
ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008
DOMESTIC WASTE WATER TREATMENT
Subbarayan Shri K.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the schemes available for treatment of domestic waste water and its re-use in the country;

(b) whether these schemes are effective in ensuring purity of treated water;

(c) if so, the details thereof including the areas in which such water can be reused; and

(d) if not, the details of any alternate scheme being proposed for the purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS(SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) & (d) Urban Water Supply and Sanitation is a State subject and it is the responsibility of the State Governments/Urban local Bodies (ULBs) to plan, design, execute, operate and maintain water supply and sanitation projects including domestic wastewater treatment schemes with State Plan funds. Under the Union Ministry of Urban Development, two State-sector mission-mode reform oriented programmes, namely, the Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) and the Urban Infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) are presently in operation for supplementing the efforts of the State Governments & ULBs by providing Additional Central Assistance (ACA) as per guidelines of the schemes. Sewerage & sewage treatment (i.e. domestic wastewater treatment) schemes including treatment of sewage for release back into nature or reuse are among the admissible components of the programmes. Pollution abatement measures taken up under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP) and National Lake Conservation Plan (NLCP) include setting up of Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) for treating the intercepted and diverted sewage to the desired standards before it reaches the water bodies.

(b) & (c) Purity of treated wastewater essentially means treating of sewage/domestic wastewater to the mandated effluent standards. The wastewater can be treated at secondary, tertiary and more advanced levels depending upon the final applications of the treated wastewater. The reclaimed water can be used for direct and indirect applications for horticulture, agriculture, irrigation, industries, groundwater recharge etc. depending upon the degree of treatment achieved.